

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims reflects all claim amendments and replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Material to be inserted is in **bold and underline**, and material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~ or (if the deletion is of five or fewer consecutive characters or would be difficult to see) in double brackets [[]].

1. (Currently Amended) A linear positioning system for guiding a rip fence structure on a table saw comprising

a rail assembly including a threaded rod substantially enclosed in a cylindrical housing having a longitudinal opening adjacent a T-shaped track, **wherein the housing has one or more external longitudinal T-slots for attaching the housing to other structures,**

a carriage configured to move back and forth along the rail assembly, the carriage having a threaded portion mounted on the rod, and a flange portion extending through the opening to the outside of the housing, the flange portion having a first T-slot configured to permit smooth sliding of the carriage on the T-shaped track of the housing, and

a rigid coupling device connecting the carriage to the fence structure so that movement of the carriage along the threaded rod causes corresponding movement of the fence structure.

2. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein the only contact between the ~~rail assembly~~ **cylindrical housing** and carriage is along the T-shaped track.

3. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the flange portion has a second T-slot for attaching the coupling device to the carriage.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3, wherein the coupling device is attached to the carriage at least at two points.

5. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 4, wherein the two points define a line substantially parallel to the direction of fence structure movement.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 3, wherein the flange portion has a third T-slot for attaching an interlock device capable of preventing operation of the saw when the carriage is moving.

7. (Canceled)

8. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the first T-slot has low friction material on an inner side of the slot for minimizing friction between the T-shaped rail and first T-slot.

9. (Currently Amended) A linear positioning system for guiding a rip fence structure on a table saw comprising

a rail assembly including a threaded rod substantially enclosed in a cylindrical housing having a longitudinal opening **adjacent to a longitudinal track**,

a carriage configured to move back and forth along the rail assembly, ~~the carriage having a threaded portion mounted on the rod, and a flange portion extending through the opening to the outside of the housing~~ **threaded rod and longitudinal track without contacting any other internal surface inside the cylindrical housing**, and

a rigid coupling device connecting the carriage to the fence structure so that movement of the carriage along the threaded rod **and longitudinal track** causes corresponding movement of the fence structure.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 9, wherein the ~~housing has a~~ **longitudinal track is** T-shaped rail adjacent the opening.

11. (Currently Amended) The system of claim ~~9~~**10**, wherein **the carriage includes a threaded portion mounted on the rod and a flange portion extending through the longitudinal opening, and wherein** the flange portion of the carriage has a first T-slot configured to permit smooth sliding of the carriage on the T-shaped track ~~of the housing~~.

12. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 11, wherein the flange portion has a second T-slot for attaching the coupling device to the carriage.

13. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 9, wherein the coupling device is attached to the carriage at least at two points.

14. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein the two points define a line substantially parallel to the direction of fence structure movement.

15. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 11, wherein the first T-slot has low friction material on an inner side of the slot for minimizing friction between the T-shaped track rail and first T-slot.

16. (Currently Amended) A linear positioning system for guiding a rip fence structure on a table saw comprising

a rail assembly including a threaded rod substantially enclosed in a cylindrical housing having a longitudinal opening adjacent a T-shaped track,

a carriage configured to move back and forth along the rail assembly, the carriage having a threaded portion mounted on the rod, and a flange portion extending through the opening to the outside of the housing, the flange portion having a T-slot configured to permit smooth sliding of the carriage on the T-shaped track of the housing, wherein the only contact between the ~~rail assembly~~ housing and carriage is along the T-shaped track, and

a rigid coupling device connecting the carriage to the fence structure so that movement of the carriage along the threaded rod causes corresponding movement of the fence structure.

17. (New) A linear positioning system for guiding a rip fence structure on a table saw comprising

a rod substantially enclosed in a cylindrical housing having at least one longitudinal track,

a carriage configured to move back and forth along the rod and a single longitudinal track of the housing,

a rigid coupling device connecting the carriage to the fence structure so that movement of the carriage along the threaded rod and the single longitudinal track causes corresponding movement of the fence structure.

18. (New) The system of claim 17, wherein the housing includes an opening, and wherein the single longitudinal track is adjacent the opening.